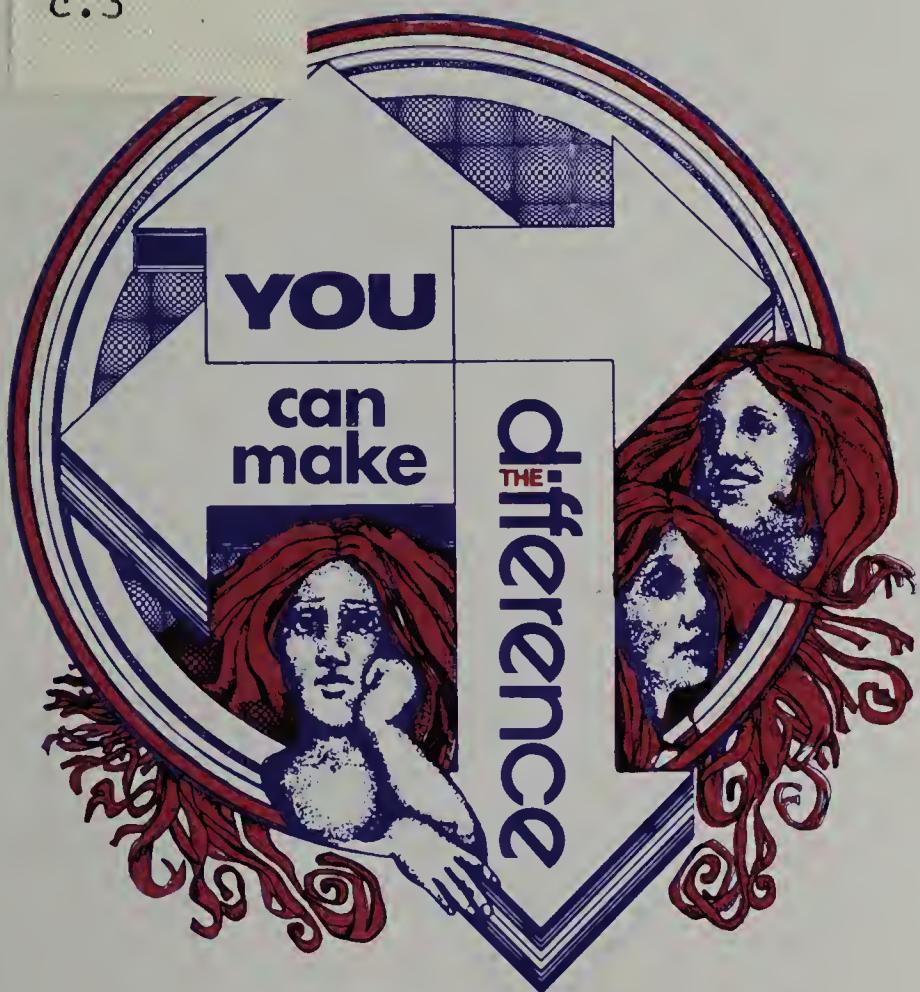


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through  
**teen**  
foster  
care

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-URBANA

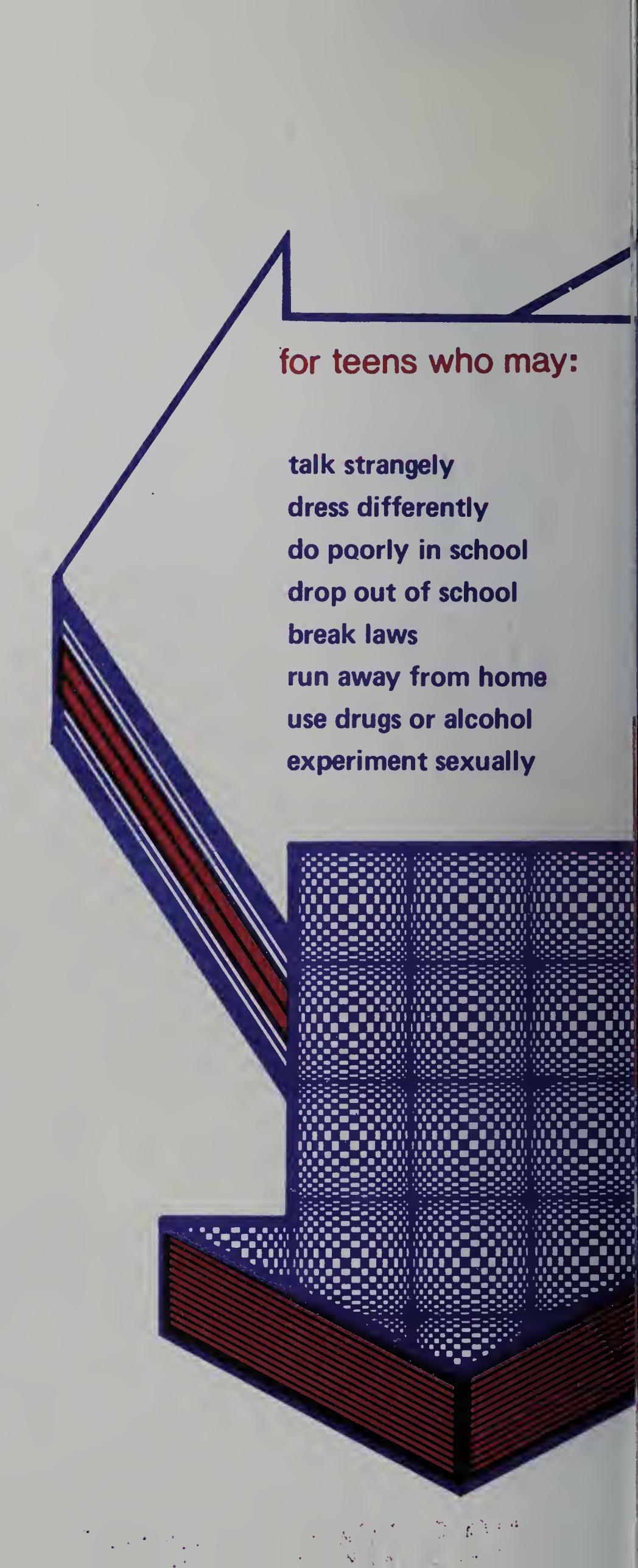


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**for teens who may:**

- talk strangely**
- dress differently**
- do poorly in school**
- drop out of school**
- break laws**
- run away from home**
- use drugs or alcohol**
- experiment sexually**

**these teens need:**

to feel they have worth  
to know they can achieve  
to feel wanted  
to be able to depend upon an adult  
to believe it's worthwhile to change  
to believe they can change

**— and —**

**they need to know some adults who:**

will listen to them  
respect their ideas  
set fair and consistent limits  
answer them courteously  
give them appropriate responsibility  
give attention when they do worthwhile things  
will be a friend  
will be a model of a mature adult

# Be the difference!

When natural parents can no longer provide help and guidance—because of family breakdown, illness, death—other stable, dependable adults are needed—to be foster parents

## Be the difference!

Unless a troubled teen is offered love, understanding, and skilled help now, his scars will probably prevent him from becoming a useful citizen and a good parent to his own children.

Can you be that kind of adult?  
YOU can make the difference!  
And gain the rewards of being a foster parent.

If not you, then —  
institutionalization for delinquency?  
hospitalization or death due to drug abuse?  
escape into an early marriage?  
running away to a life in the streets?

So that you can care for children not your own, your home must meet minimum child care standards and be licensed.

You must have:

- adequate space
- adequate income
- general good health
- maturity and flexibility

. . . and a willingness to work as a team member for the benefit of a child.

The Department of Children and Family Services will give you training and casework support.

For information on foster parenting, contact the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. Look in your telephone directory under "Illinois, State of." In Cook County, get in touch with the DCFS Cook County Central Resource Development unit at 2020 W. Roosevelt Rd., Chicago 60608, telephone 793-2160.

**Illinois Department of Children and Family Services**  
Serving all citizens regardless of their race, creed, or ethnic background

CFS 1050-8  
4/76 17M

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